Experiencing the Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation and Analyzing Its Features- C&E

NCSCOS C&E Objectives

* 1. Describe how geographic diversity influenced economic, social, and political life in colonial North America
  2. Trace & analyze the development of ideas about self-government in British North America
  3. Examine the causes of the American Revolution
  4. Elaborate on the emergence of an American identity
  5. Identify the major domestic problems of the nation under the Articles of Confederation & assess the extent to which they were resolved by the new Constitution

Strategies Used

1. Cooperative Learning

15. Non-linguistic Representations

20. Mnemonics

25. Role Play

26. Teams Games Tournament

Materials: History Alive US History Program- The Constitution in a New Nation, Activities 1.2-1.4

Explanation- This activity is used to teach students about the features and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation. It first uses a relatively short hook in which students are placed in small groups working to achieve an unattainable goal. This draws them in and they experience one major difficulty associated with the Articles. They next analyze a series of cartoons that describe more weaknesses/features of the Articles. They must complete a cause and effect chart about the weaknesses which require them to draw on prior knowledge regarding the development of American identity and the causes for the American Revolution. Finally, the complete an acrostic poem to describe the weaknesses of the Articles. This lesson attempts to draw on strengths of various learning styles, while reinforcing prior learning. It takes a 90 minute block period to complete.